

Ground Operations (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700480

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

This grant application will assist the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Ridgecrest Field Office (RIFO) in managing and sustaining OHV recreation opportunities on the public lands within its jurisdiction. The main operations that will be performed with this grant funding request include the following—operating the Jawbone Station Visitor Center (JSVC), repairing and maintaining trail tread, maintaining informational kiosks, producing interpretive materials, installing regulatory signs and route markers, providing trash collection, maintaining management area fence lines along with barriers to prevent damage to sensitive areas and the areas that are off limits to motorized vehicles.

Funding will also be used towards personnel cost to carry out these efforts. Those funded staff members that will be implementing these efforts include a contract Trail Maintenance Crew, Heavy Equipment Operators, Park Rangers, Outdoor Recreation Planners, other BLM staff, and along with volunteers. Their efforts will be focused towards maintaining our designated route system to soil conservation standards and to reduce impacts upon wildlife and their habitats, along with providing outstanding visitor support services for high quality OHV use and general recreational programs. In addition, this grant will provide the BLM Ridgecrest Office's Recreation Staff with specialized training, such as, Global Information Systems (GIS) training (used for map creation and data collection), recreational trail management training (this will give staff up to date trail management skills and techniques), how to better maintain recreational facilities for motorized trail uses, working with volunteer groups, and/or emergency medical service (EMS) training. Additionally we will also use funding for Resource Staff members to conduct biological and vegetative monitoring as outlined in our programs Habitat Management Program (HMP).

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

This grant application will assist the BLM Ridgecrest Field Office (RIFO) in managing and sustaining OHV recreation opportunities. This will take place in our heaviest visited OHV recreational use areas, along with educating the public on the proper use of ethics for the rest of the public lands within our management area. This project will assist in maintaining areas which can see as many as 900,000 visitor use days per year.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The BLM Ridgecrest Field Office (RIFO) is located in the western Mojave Desert and is a transition zone between the West Mojave Desert bioregion, the Sierra Nevada, Great Basin, and San Joaquin Valley bioregions and manages nearly 1.8 million acres of public lands in Kern, Inyo, Mono, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties. The management area includes four OHV Open Areas, 3,040 miles of roads and trails, 16 Wilderness areas, approximately 83 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail and 20 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

Easy access to public lands from State Highways 14 and 395 coupled with the outstanding recreational opportunities have increased the popularity of the Ridgecrest Field Office (RIFO) OHV areas. The RIFO public lands hosted over 800,000 visitors in FY2009 providing a variety of recreation opportunities that includes: casual motorized OHV trail riding for all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, sand rails, four-wheel driving and many other non-motorized activities such as hiking, backpacking, hang gliding, hunting, rock hounding, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, photography, rock climbing and mountain biking. The southern portion of the RIFO management area is 2 hours driving time north of the Los Angeles basin and its urban population of over 15 million residents.

OHV recreation opportunities can be found both within designated OHV Open Areas and along the designated trail system that travels across public lands. The four Open Areas we manage includes; Jawbone Canyon with its very steep and high

hill climbs, Dove Springs with its sandy bowl area, Olancho Dunes with its small dune system, and Spangler Hills with its varied terrain that is the site of about a dozen OHV races each year. All of these open areas cover approximately 90,000 acres of land.

Surrounding these areas is about a million acres of Limited Use lands and an extensive road and trail system of over 3000 miles that is enjoyed both for OHV touring opportunities, along with providing access to many non-motorized recreational opportunities. The most heavily visited limited use areas that provide OHV opportunities include; the Jawbone-Butterbret ACEC, El Paso Mountains Management Area, Rand Mountains/Fremont Valley Management Area, Rademacher Hills, Panamint Valley, along with the Red Mountain and Eastern Sierra subregions.

These recreational opportunities are available year round, at no time during the year is the weather so severe that OHV recreation cannot be enjoyed. The most popular time of the year is from October through May, while during the warmer summer months people usually recreate in the morning or later in the day during evening hours. Within these many miles of trails and acres of open area one can find enjoyable OHV recreational opportunities no matter what a persons skill level is or the type of motorized vehicle they are operating.

A critical component in our management of all of these recreational opportunities is the Jawbone Station Visitor Center. Jawbone Station is located at the entrance into the Jawbone Canyon OHV Area off Highway 14, twenty miles north of the town of Mojave. We operate this facility in partnership with the Friends of Jawbone and are able to keep the facility open 7 days a week 365 days a year from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The center is a focal point of local desert information and is a welcomed rest stop for the Highway 14 traveler. In 2009, the station hosted 6,575 visitors. The Station provides maps, books, has interpretive displays, and many other services to off-roaders, tourists, hikers, equestrian riders, and bird watchers just to name a few. The station also is a major day use OHV staging area, has served as an emergency helipad for medical evacuations of injured riders, and a command post for Kern County Search & Rescue teams during rescue operations.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Eastern Sierra Area Route Map](#)
[El Paso Mtns Area Route Map](#)
[Jawbone - Dove Springs Area Route Map](#)
[Red Mtn Area Route Map](#)
[Rand Mtn Area Route Map](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____		APP # _____	
APPLICANT NAME :	BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office				
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations (FINAL)			PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-01-15-G01
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>This grant application will assist the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Ridgecrest Field Office (RIFO) in managing and sustaining OHV recreation opportunities on the public lands within its jurisdiction. The main operations that will be performed with this grant funding request include the following—operating the Jawbone Station Visitor Center (JSVC), repairing and maintaining trail tread, maintaining informational kiosks, producing interpretive materials, installing regulatory signs and route markers, providing trash collection, maintaining management area fence lines along with barriers to prevent damage to sensitive areas and the areas that are off limits to motorized vehicles.</p> <p>Funding will also be used towards personnel cost to carry out these efforts. Those funded staff members that will be implementing these efforts include a contract Trail Maintenance Crew, Heavy Equipment Operators, Park Rangers, Outdoor Recreation Planners, other BLM staff, and along with volunteers. Their efforts will be focused towards maintaining our designated route system to soil conservation standards and to reduce impacts upon wildlife and their habitats, along with providing outstanding visitor support services for high quality OHV use and general recreational programs. In addition, this grant will provide the BLM Ridgecrest Office's Recreation Staff with specialized training, such as, Global Information Systems (GIS) training (used for map creation and data collection), recreational trail management training (this will give staff up to date trail management skills and techniques), how to better maintain recreational facilities for motorized trail uses, working with volunteer groups, and/or emergency medical service (EMS) training. Additionally we will also use funding for Resource Staff members to conduct biological and vegetative monitoring as outlined in our programs Habitat Management Program (HMP).</p>				

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Heavy Equipment Operator	1040.000	28.000	HRS	20,000.00	9,120.00	29,120.00
	Other-Park Rangers	2080.000	22.000	HRS	35,000.00	10,760.00	45,760.00
	Other-Resource Staff	300.000	30.000	HRS	6,000.00	3,000.00	9,000.00
	Other-Recreation Branch Chief	520.000	45.000	HRS	10,000.00	13,400.00	23,400.00
	Other-Maintenance Lead	500.000	30.000	HRS	8,000.00	7,000.00	15,000.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office
Application: Ground Operations (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Volunteer Time including Moose And	480.000	20.250	HRS	0.00	9,720.00	9,720.00
	Other-Outdoor Recreation Planner	520.000	30.000	HRS	10,000.00	5,600.00	15,600.00
	Total for Staff				89,000.00	58,600.00	147,600.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Toilet Cleaning	1.000	29000.000	YD	29,000.00	0.00	29,000.00
	Other-CXT Vault Pumping	14.000	250.000	EA	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
	Other-Jawbone Station Trash Service	12.000	362.000	MOS	0.00	4,344.00	4,344.00
	Other-Jawbone Station Janitorial	12.000	770.000	MOS	9,240.00	0.00	9,240.00
	Other-Jawbone Station Alarm Service	4.000	250.000	EA	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Other-Trail Maintenance Crew Notes : This contract provides for a two person crew to operate the Field Offices SWECO Trail Dozer and other heavy equipment to maintain trail tread, sign routes, and other various facility maintenace efforts.	1.000	107000.000	YR	107,000.00	0.00	107,000.00
	Other-Jawbone Station Pest Control	12.000	40.000	MOS	0.00	480.00	480.00
	Other-Holiday Trash Collection	4.000	1250.000	EA	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Other-Jawbone Station Staffing	12.000	5500.000	MOS	66,000.00	0.00	66,000.00
	Total for Contracts				214,740.00	10,824.00	225,564.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Fencing Supplies	1.000	10000.000	MISC	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
	Other-Medical Emergency Supplies	1.000	3000.000	MISC	2,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00
	Other-Signs/Kiosks/Trail Markers	1.000	5000.000	MISC	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
	Other-Tools	1.000	2000.000	MISC	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
	Other-Laptop Computer Accessories	1.000	700.000	MISC	700.00	0.00	700.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Such as a battery backup, case, docking station, usb components, etc.						
	Total for Materials / Supplies				13,700.00	7,000.00	20,700.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Equipment Rental	1.000	20000.000	MISC	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00
	Other-Radio Accessories	1.000	500.000	MISC	0.00	500.00	500.00
	Other-OHV replacement parts/maintenance	1.000	2000.000	MISC	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
	Other-Safety and Riding Gear	1.000	1000.000	YR	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Other-GPS and DC Electric Accessories	1.000	1000.000	MISC	500.00	500.00	1,000.00
	Other-Vehicle Use Expense	1.000	10000.000	MISC	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Other-Sound Meter Calibration	3.000	500.000	EA	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				14,000.00	22,000.00	36,000.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-Laptop Computer Notes : This computer will be used in the field, which makes it a boon of a tool to spend less time in the office and more time in the field. This computer needs to be rugged, durable, weather, and shock resistant. The use of this computer will be used for the ongoing development and creation of maps and signs. Second it will be used for soil evaluations, inventories, and GIS data in the field. Thirdly, will assist with EMS logistics, have real time video monitoring/recording, budgeting costs and accounting on the fly when away from the office or in the field and doing this paperless.	1.000	3600.000	EA	3,600.00	0.00	3,600.00
	Other-Computer Software Notes : First, this will be use for the ongoing development and creation of maps and signs. Second, it will be used for soil	1.000	1500.000	MISC	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office
Application: Ground Operations (FINAL)

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	evaluation and GIS data in the field, such as, Photoshop, Arc GIS, and Pathfinder. In conclusion, this software will also accompany the laptops description of use listed above.						
	Total for Equipment Purchases				5,100.00	0.00	5,100.00
6	Others						
	Other-Training Notes : This will provide the BLM Ridgecrest Office's Recreation Staff with specialized training, such as, Global Information Systems (GIS) training (used for map creation and data collection), recreational trail management training (this will give staff the latest trail management techniques to be use to enhance the OHV experience), how to better maintain recreational facilities for motorized trail uses, working with volunteer groups, and/or emergency medical service (EMS) training for public safety.	1.000	3000.000	MISC	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Other-Stationary/Office Supplies/Xerox L	1.000	2000.000	MISC	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Other-Interpretive Panels	1.000	4000.000	MISC	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
	Other-Interpretive Printing	1.000	10000.000	MISC	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
	Total for Others				17,000.00	2,000.00	19,000.00
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-10 Percent	1.000	35000.000	MISC	0.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
	Total Program Expenses				353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office
Application: Ground Operations (FINAL)

2/26/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	89,000.00	58,600.00	147,600.00	
2	Contracts	214,740.00	10,824.00	225,564.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	13,700.00	7,000.00	20,700.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	14,000.00	22,000.00	36,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	5,100.00	0.00	5,100.00	
6	Others	17,000.00	2,000.00	19,000.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		353,540.00	135,424.00	488,964.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

The Ground Operations project proposes no task that would result in negative impacts to wetlands, navigable waters, or sensitive habitats and species. Main operations that will be performed from funding requested with this grant include operating the Jawbone Station Visitor Center, restoring trail tread, maintaining information kiosks, producing interpretive materials, installing regulatory and route signs, providing trash collection, maintaining management area fence lines along with barriers to prevent damage to sensitive areas and areas off limits to motorized vehicles. This project proposal is to continue implementing the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (1980), as amended, West Mojave Plan (2006), Jawbone-Butterbrecht Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Plan (1982) and the Rand Mountains/Fremont Valley Management Plan (Rand Plan) (1993). The goal of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA) is to provide for the use of the public lands and resources in the region including economic, educational, scientific, and recreational uses, in a manner which enhances whenever possible and which does not diminish on balance the environmental, cultural, and aesthetic values of the desert. The West Mojave Plan is a habitat conservation plan and an amendment to the CDCA plan that presents a comprehensive strategy to conserve and protect the desert tortoise, the Mohave ground squirrel and over 100 other sensitive plants and animals and the natural communities of which they are part of. The purpose of the Rand Plan is to identify the necessary land management actions to enable the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to ensure that viable populations of desert tortoise continue to exist in the planning area. The Jawbone-Butterbrecht ACEC was established to protect and enhance wildlife and Native American values on public lands throughout the management area. Each of these plans outlines numerous management actions to reach these goals. One primary action that is common to all of these plans is to implement a designated route system. The route networks are designed to provide access throughout the management areas while protecting the natural resources found in each area. The designated route systems provide interesting recreational opportunities including loop trips and point-to-point travel on existing routes while eliminating many redundant routes. Each of these designated route systems are to be signed and maintained, resulting in the protection of the sensitive habitats and natural resources of these areas, while the closed routes are to be restored and re-vegetated to the extent possible. Through the implementation of these plans and their respective route systems, critical habitats and threatened species will be protected. These actions are designed to and should result in having positive effects on aquatic resources, wildlife habitats, cultural and natural resources.

All of these new undertakings, like the previous installations, will be performed following the environmental protection measures identified within the BLM Ridgecrest Resource Area – Wide Maintenance & Surface Restoration Environmental Assessment – NEPA 96-70 and in accordance with the goals of the West Mojave Plan, Jawbone ACEC Plan, and Rand Mountain Fremont Valley Management Plan.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

This project will not add to or increase the level of cumulative effects to the environments in the project areas since this project is to continue the implementation efforts of the West Mojave plan and location specific plans within the Ridgecrest Resource Area. For a discussion of the cumulative effects for each of these management plans refer to each individual plan:

Refer to section 4.2.7 Cumulative Impacts (pages 4-135 thru 4-141) of the West Mojave Plan.

Refer to section VII Cumulative Impacts (pages 102-103) of the Rand Plan.

Refer to section XII Environmental Assessment of the Jawbone-Butterbrecht ACEC

Additionally, maintenance efforts are conducted following the guidelines and conditions of the Ridgecrest Resource Area-Wide Maintenance & Surface Restoration Environmental Assessment NEPA96-70 and in compliance with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion for the aforementioned environmental assessment to further decrease any potential for cumulative effects.

Some of the guidelines and conditions that must be present to use heavy equipment and perform on-the ground actions are as follows:

1. The operator should minimize lowering of the roadbed when grading to avoid building up tall berms that may inhibit movement of desert tortoises. Berms higher than twelve inches and/or with a slope greater than 30 degrees will inhibit desert tortoise movements and should be pulled back into the roadbed.

2. The project inspector or on-site monitor shall inspect water ditches for desert tortoise burrows before moving/ shoveling any soil. If a desert tortoise burrow is present, the water ditch shall be left undisturbed if possible.
3. Road maintenance, particularly grading, will be scheduled to coincide with periods of maximum soil moisture, to maximize compaction of disturbed soils to minimize dust.
4. Any new road construction or existing road maintenance will use crowning, ditching, out-sloping, in-sloping, barrow ditches, drainage dips, low-water crossings, culverts, or lead-out ditches to control erosion and resource degradation...
- A complete listing of these guidelines and conditions can be found in the above mentioned environmental assessment and biological opinion.

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

Through the implementation of proposed trail maintenance activities in compliance with the guidelines contained in the Ridgecrest Resource Area-Wide Maintenance & Surface Restoration Environmental Assessment NEPA96-70 and the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opinion for the above-mentioned environmental assessment, no significant effect on the environment should occur. In reality, the reshaping and repairing of drainage structures and trail tread should reverse as well as prevent damage from occurring on steep slopes and erosive soils. Facility operations of the Jawbone Station, distribution of interpretive materials along with signing and barriers will actually result in having a positive effect on the natural environments. Through these management actions and education efforts the visitor will improve their understanding of the ongoing management actions to protect natural resources which hopefully will foster support for and actions of responsible use that will assist in achieving these goals. Additionally, the human environment will improve with improved route conditions and the removal of possible safety hazards created from such dangerous features as washouts or excessively rough trails.

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

Within the view sheds of the Ridgecrest Resource Area, no highways are designated as state scenic highways. Therefore, the actions proposed within this grant request shall have no affect on scenic resources associated with a designated state scenic highway

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

Ground operations efforts within the Red Mountain and Eastern Sierra Sub-regions along with the implementation of the Rand Plan and the Jawbone-Butterbrecht ACEC Plan do not have the potential to cause substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources. Prior to carrying out surface disturbing activities cultural resource staff are consulted with to ensure that the staff conducting the work efforts are aware of the resources found within the area of potential effect. Furthermore staff and contractors are instructed of the standard protection measure contained within environmental assessments that states "In the event that cultural or paleontological resources are discovered during maintenance or restoration activities, operations in the vicinity of the discovered resources shall cease immediately and the operator will notify the BLM. The BLM will, as appropriate, evaluate the significance of the find and determine the need for mitigation. The operator shall not proceed with potentially disturb

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

We do not foresee that this project will result in significant impacts off-site, displace users groups making them go elsewhere, or result in increasing use in the vicinity to a significant level. Through our scheduled maintenance plan we should be able to both protect the natural environment on and off site, as well as provide a quality recreational experience to all levels of users in the region. By providing the user with a well maintained trail system users should want to stay on the routes instead of going off route and potentially exposing themselves to unknown and possible dangerous conditions. The overall goal of this project is to provide a quality recreational experience that does not adversely affect the natural environment or cause off site impacts. In addition, by providing the public with quality informational materials, we should be able to solicit support and actions of the public to prevent significant impacts from occurring both onsite and off-site.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[EA- Ridgecrest Resource Area wide Maintenance and Surface Restoration EA](#)
[DNA- OHV Grant Application & Management of OHV Recreation](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Failure to complete the project could result in loss of OHV opportunity because the massive amount of OHV visitors per year could result in a devastating impact to sensitive species their habitat along with having a negative impact on cultural resources. The Ridgecrest Field Office has developed a trail maintenance schedule plan that will minimize the impact from OHV recreational use. This plan is designed to avoid cultural resources, soil, wildlife and plant damage whenever possible and to maintain soil conservation standards. The scheduled trail maintenance reduces deferred maintenance and the overall amount of maintenance that is required to keep the riders on the trail system. The hope is that better maintained trails leads to less off-route riding and protecting neighboring private lands from trespass.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The Project would sustain OHV opportunities by using heavy equipment and trail maintenance operators to maintain the majority of the OHV trail systems. Routine trail maintenance enhances the OHV users experience by providing a positive riding experience. A well signed and maintained trail protects restoration sites, reduces illegal off route riding by not encouraging riders to try and circumvent rough or dangerous trail conditions. The maintenance activities include trail signing, removing whoops, restoration of trail tread, out sloping of trails to reduce erosion, and building water control features and run outs. We strive to inform the public and protect the environmental resources through our various signing efforts. We install and maintain informational kiosks, regulatory signs, management area boundary signs, and directional signs complete with level of riding difficulty and vehicle type.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

BLM staff has participated in discussions at three different meetings to solicit public input into the development of this grant proposal. These public meetings have included stakeholders, also.

Ridgecrest Steering Committee, on February 25, 2010.

Friends of Jawbone, on January 20, February 17, 2010.

OHV Leadership Meeting on February 9, 2010.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Friends of Jawbone, Kern County Sheriff, Kern County Search and Rescue, Kern County Fire, San Bernardino Sheriff and Fire Departments, California Highway Patrol, United States Forrest Service, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Pacific Crest Trail Association, Sierra Club, and OHV user groups. More partners upon request.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 5

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
☐ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

It is one of our primary program goals to provide recreational opportunities while protecting and avoiding impacts to cultural and natural resources. To achieve this goal we maintain physical barriers, such as fences in sensitive areas to control OHV encroachment and impacts. We provide trash dumpsters and 1000 gallon vaulted sanitary toilet facilities in some of our areas to reduce waste. All aspects of routine route maintenance include the installation or maintenance of existing erosion control features to prevent and eliminate the effects of erosion and degradation to all natural, cultural, and historic resources. BLM policy requires NEPA documentation and inventory for all surface disturbance projects and undertakings prior to the commencement of any and all projects. If it is determined that a riparian area is not being adequately protected from OHV or other damage, then we would look for alternates, such as a building a bridge instead of a wet crossing and re-routing trails away from the area.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 5

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☒ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Reconstructed Kiosks and Recycled vegetation]

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Our Jawbone Visitors Station uses water efficient landscaping from a natural source and low flow plumbing fixtures. In our OHV Open Areas we have 12 vaulted toilets that are considered extremely low flow and only use 500 gallons of water per year. In addition, we use alternative fuel vehicles contained in our fleet. We provide right-a-ways to Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for their solar power transmission lines, which provide service to over 500,000 homes.

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equestrian trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rock Climbing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [Cultural Site Visitation, Rockhounding, Hunting] | |

